

Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot *Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District, OR*

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

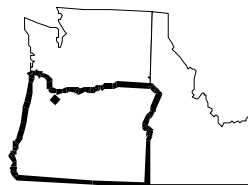
EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower States, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. Since 1995, EPA has funded more than 200 Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots, at up to \$200,000 each, to support creative two-year explorations and demonstrations of brownfields solutions. The Pilots are intended to provide EPA, States, Tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (Tri-Met) of Oregon for a Brownfields Pilot. The Portland metropolitan area contains approximately 1,100 known brownfields sites, a result in part of businesses forsaking properties with suspected contamination in favor of less problematic greenfields. As part of a larger City effort to expand Portland's light rail system, the Pilot is targeting sites in three economically disadvantaged areas within the Portland metro area: East Milwaukie, Milwaukie Regional Center, and South Willamette River Crossing. This rail line would link the northern and southern portions of the metro Portland region, traversing economically disadvantaged neighborhoods with large heavy industrial zones.

While Portland as a whole is currently experiencing strong growth and development, the targeted areas are underused and undervalued. The targeted area has a 10% unemployment rate, a 35% poverty rate, and 47% of its residents are minority. The City plans to integrate the Pilot efforts into the development of the South/North transit corridor to complement adjacent land uses, improve traffic flow, and enhance the surrounding communities.

PILOT SNAPSHOT



*Tri-County Metropolitan
Transportation District,
Oregon*

Date of Announcement:
July 1998

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets three disadvantaged areas of metropolitan Portland for assessment, cleanup and redevelopment activities related to the planned South/North light rail line.

Contacts:

Tri-County Metropolitan
Transportation District
(503) 239-2144

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 10
(206) 553-6523

Visit the EPA Region 10 Brownfields web site at:
[http://epainotes1.rtpnc.epa.gov:7777/r10/cleanup.nsf/
webpage/Brownfields](http://epainotes1.rtpnc.epa.gov:7777/r10/cleanup.nsf/webpage/Brownfields)

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

OBJECTIVES

Tri-Met's overall objective is to create opportunities for redevelopment associated with the South/North Light Rail Project by promoting the reuse of brownfields sites along the corridor proposed for the project. The Pilot will plan for the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields in the economically disadvantaged neighborhoods within or adjacent to the transit corridor segments. Leveraging redevelopment and reuse of brownfields sites in these neighborhoods will enhance the connection between transit and related and dependent industries.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Identifying and prioritizing contaminated sites that have redevelopment potential;
- Conducting Phase I and II assessments at priority brownfields sites;
- Planning for cleanup and redevelopment at priority brownfields sites; and
- Conducting outreach activities to educate community stakeholders during each phase of the project.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.